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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Suriname

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-fifth session from 2 to 13 May 2016. The review of Suriname was held at the 1st meeting on 2 May 2016. The delegation of Suriname was headed by the Minister of Justice and Police, Jennifer van Dijk-Silos. At its 8th meeting held on 6 May 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Suriname.

2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Suriname: the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Paraguay and the Philippines.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Suriname:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SUR/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SUR/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SUR/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Mexico, Slovenia, Spain, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Suriname through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation stated that the reporting obligations under both the treaty body system and the universal periodic review offered the opportunity to assess the achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as to address remaining challenges and constraints. Suriname would continue to cooperate with the treaty bodies, the universal periodic review mechanism and other international and regional bodies in its endeavour to ensure that the rights and freedoms of all within the territory of Suriname were observed.

6. The national report for the second cycle of review had been prepared in consultation with various stakeholders, including civil society and non-governmental organizations.

7. Following the review of Suriname in 2011, Suriname had carefully reviewed the 91 recommendations it had received and, in particular, the 65 supported recommendations.

8. For the past five years, closing inequality gaps had become a high priority for the President of Suriname. Against that backdrop, Suriname had placed emphasis on improving education, health and socioeconomic conditions.

9. As from October 2012, primary education had become free of charge for all children. In addition, a universal medical insurance programme had been established, including the provision of health insurance to senior citizens and children below 16 years,

free of charge. Furthermore, legislation had been adopted establishing a national minimum wage and a basic national pension for all workers.

10. The delegation then addressed some of the advance questions posed by Belgium, Liechtenstein, Mexico, the Netherlands, Slovenia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

11. Concerning gender equality and women's rights, the Draft Civil Code had already been submitted for approval to the National Assembly.

12. As for paid maternity leave for the private sector, a provision thereon had been added to the draft Civil Code. The period of the leave was between 12 and 14 weeks, while the minimum payment of remuneration was 12 weeks. In the public sector, maternity leave was regulated in every collective agreement. The option of paternity leave would be discussed with the relevant stakeholders.

13. The job stability of pregnant women was guaranteed. Dismissal because of pregnancy was prohibited by law. With regard to salaries, no distinction was made between men and women.

14. The Women and Child Policy Office within the Ministry of Justice and Police was making progress on raising public awareness about equal rights of women in relation to nationality.

15. With respect to implementation of the 2009 Act on Combating Domestic Violence, the text had been formatted and distributed amongst relevant stakeholders and an information brochure had been developed. Social workers from the "Stop Violence against Women" Foundation had been trained to be able to provide counselling to perpetrators of such violence.

16. Furthermore, in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund, a delegation from Caribbean countries had paid a visit to Suriname to share their experiences on Partnership for Peace, a programme on counselling perpetrators of domestic violence.

17. Awareness-raising activities were held annually with regard to the legislation on combating domestic violence.

18. The Education Bill for Primary and Secondary Education at Lower Level had been drafted by the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and would be submitted to the Council of Ministers in May 2016. In accordance with the constitutional procedure, the Bill would be sent to the State Council for comments. After preliminary approval by the State Council, the Bill can be submitted by the Presidency to the National Assembly.

19. All forms of corporal punishments were punishable by law in conformity with articles 360 to 363 of the Penal Code. The Legal Aid Bureau of the Ministry of Justice and Police had an active role in creating awareness of all forms of corporal punishment, including that it was forbidden and punishable by law.

20. At the beginning of each school year, the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture gave specific instructions to schools and other educational institutions, in respect of the prohibition on applying corporal punishment at school. In case of a violation of those rules, the party at fault could be dismissed or punished pursuant to article 61 of the Act on the regulation of the legal status of civil servants.

21. The Integral Plan for Children and Adolescents (2012-2016) included aspects specifically focused on combating all forms of violence against children. The Presidential Task Force for Child and Youth Policy was working on updating the priorities for the new plan of action.

22. Most of the worst forms of child labour had a punitive character and the Ministry of Justice and Police was the competent authority responsible for handling that issue.

23. The worst forms of child labour included: slavery, trafficking, debt bondage and other forms of forced labour; forced recruitment for use in armed conflict; child pornography and child prostitution, sale of children and illicit activities such as drug-related activities (sale and production of drugs by children); and hazardous work.

24. Legislative actions that had been undertaken included: the Decree on Hazardous Work of Young Persons, which regulated labour by juveniles and contained a list of hazardous labour; and the revised moral offences under the Penal Code, which included some of the worst forms of child labour with a punitive character, namely articles 293 (child pornography), 303a (youth prostitution) and 311 (giving up children for activities such as begging, hazardous work or hazardous artistic performances).

25. Suriname had also ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography in 2012.

26. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Housing had also undertaken preparatory activities for setting up shelters, including shelters for child victims of trafficking.

27. The ratification instruments for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict would be deposited in 2016.

28. The removal of the death penalty from the Penal Code was a first step towards arriving at the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. The timeline for removal of the death penalty from the Military Penal Code was set for the end of December 2016.

29. Concerning the issuance of a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders, the former Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples had visited the country to provide technical assistance upon request of the Government of Suriname. Suriname acknowledged the contribution of special procedure mandate holders to the promotion and protection of human rights. In consultation with the Government, they had the opportunity to send missions to Suriname.

30. Suriname remained committed to promoting and defending all human rights for all. Based on the principle of equality, by which all who were on the territory of Suriname had an equal claim to protection of person and property, Suriname did not discriminate on the grounds of birth, sex, race, language, religious origin, education, political beliefs, economic position or any other status (article 8 sub 2 of the Constitution of Suriname).

31. As a multicultural society, the subject of sexual orientation and gender identity and expression required a broad-based consultation process at the national level, involving all sectors of society, including the civil society. In that respect, the Ministry of Justice and Police would commence such a consultation process in July 2016, starting with faith-based organizations.

32. With the amendment to the Penal Code, which had come into force on 13 April 2015, Suriname made a further step in the direction of protection of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons.

33. The definition of discrimination enshrined in article 126a of the Penal Code applied to everyone, taking into account the principle of equality.

34. In articles 175 and 176 of the Penal Code, defamation of persons because of their sexual preference was criminalized. Instigation to hate, discrimination or violence (article

175a), defamation by publication (article 176) and support for discriminatory actions were criminalized.

35. Article 500a of the Penal Code criminalized occupational discrimination, including discrimination based on sexual orientation.

36. There were no differences in regulations and legislation regarding opportunities to carry out activities in Suriname by different organizations.

37. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons could submit requests for permission to carry out activities under the same legal conditions as all other organizations and legal entities in Suriname. The principle of equality remained applicable when it came to fundamental rights, such as the right to freedom of thought and expression and the right to freedom of association and peaceful assembly. It had been a regular occurrence that police protection and surveillance had been provided to organizations of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons when they carried out public activities.

38. Suriname fully subscribed to the principles of democracy and respect for the rule of law. Taking into account the separation of power, the Government was convinced that the judiciary was capable of holding those who had committed crimes accountable.

39. The amendment of the Amnesty Act of 19 August 1992 was done on the initiative of a number of legislators, in accordance with the principle of equality enshrined in article 8 of the Constitution.

40. Discussions had been held in parliament on their initiative when that draft piece of legislation had been introduced, and parliament had adopted the amendment according to its rules of procedures. Because of the separation of powers, the Government (the executive) could not dictate to parliament (the legislature).

41. Prior to the Amnesty Act of 5 April 2012, two similar laws were passed by the legislator. The adoption of the 2012 Amnesty Act was taken in order to remove the discriminatory aspects of the 1992 Amnesty Act. The 1992 Amnesty Act solely and explicitly covered all criminal offences committed in the period from 1 January 1985 to 19 August 1992.

42. It should also be pointed out that the amendment was simply a qualitative expansion of the previous Amnesty Act of 19 August 1992.

43. The introduction of the explicit call for the establishment of a truth and reconciliation commission implied a qualitative improvement of the 1992 Act, since its precursor had not called for the creation of a procedure to seek truth and reconciliation regarding the violations and crimes it covered.

44. Concerning ratification of the Amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on the crime of aggression (the Kampala Amendments), draft legislation related to the Kampala Amendments had already been approved by the Council of Ministers and submitted to the State Council. After approval by the State Council, the draft laws would be submitted to the National Assembly.

45. Suriname had taken many steps with regard to the problem of mercury contamination within the country. The most recent of those steps had been the establishment of the Gold Sector Planning Programme within the Ministry of Natural Resources. The National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname, as the technical institute within the Ministry of Home Affairs, had taken the initiative in 2013 to conduct a legal and institutional assessment of the Minamata Convention on Mercury. That assessment had led to the formulation of a national action plan for the implementation of the Convention and the Government was working on its ratification.

46. The above-mentioned was the first concrete step to ensure prevention and remedy of the effects of mercury contamination, among others, on indigenous lands.

47. Artisanal and small-scale gold mining was the sector in which mercury was used and was also the biggest source of mercury contamination in the country.

48. Another initiative was that of cooperation between Government, through some of its institutions, non-governmental organizations and the country's university as part of the Mercury-Free Partnership, whose goal was to encourage the phasing out of mercury use within artisanal and small-scale gold mining by promoting the use of mercury-free technologies and awareness building.

49. With respect to the implementation of the judgments of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the cases of *Saramaka People v. Suriname* and *Kaliña and Lokono Peoples v. Suriname*, the political will was present to undertake the necessary steps in that regard.

50. However, the extent and the nature of the judgments obliged the State to adopt a certain degree of cautiousness. The State wished to execute the judgments in the most responsible manner possible, while ensuring that there was overall ownership of the process that it had embarked upon as a nation.

51. The State was bound to such cautiousness since it was evident that, to date, there was no common agreement among the indigenous and tribal communities on certain major aspects of the judgments.

52. Divergent positions were certainly evident with respect to agreeing on an applicable map of land use for those communities. It was therefore complex for the State to embark upon specific actions for delimitation and demarcation.

53. The judgment by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in *Moiwana Community v. Suriname* was almost fully implemented. Parts of the judgment that still needed to be implemented related to demarcation of the land and would be executed together with the implementation of the *Saramaka* judgment.

54. In the case of *Moiwana*, it should be noted that the Court had wrongfully assigned Moiwana as property belonging to Maroons (tribal communities), whereas those lands were indigenous lands. The indigenous peoples had objections in that regard.

55. In addition, the principle of free, prior, and informed consent was already implemented in practice by multinationals and large local companies who had to consult with local indigenous and tribal communities.

56. For instance in Sarakreek, the Government had mediated an agreement between the Saramaka people and the owners of the scalians.

57. The Government also had mediated an agreement between the IAMGOLD Corporation and the inhabitants of Koffiekamp village.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

58. During the interactive dialogue, 55 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

59. Indonesia appreciated the accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the establishment of a road map for combating trafficking (2014-2018), the development of a gender work plan and amendments to the Penal Code to increase the protection of children.

It also commended the efforts of Suriname in establishing the national human rights institution.

60. Ireland commended the effective abolition of the death penalty through its elimination from the Penal Code. It noted references to the death penalty in the Military Penal Code and encouraged Suriname to amend it. It was also concerned that Suriname's legislative environment could interfere with the enjoyment of the right to freedom of expression. It was also concerned that the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community faced discrimination.

61. Italy commended that the removal of the death penalty from the Penal Code and welcomed the attention devoted by Suriname to the rights of the child, especially the steps taken in order to combat child labour.

62. The Minister of Justice and Police responded to some of the issues raised in the interactive dialogue. Concerning the national human rights institution, the Minister stated that it would definitely be launched on 10 December 2016.

63. On trafficking in persons and protection of children, Suriname was already combating with those issues.

64. As for the accession to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment raised by Indonesia, the Minister indicated that the delegation would take that recommendation to the Government to study the possibility of accession. The same would be done for the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

65. As to the discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, to which Ireland referred, the Minister stressed that they were not discriminated against either in law or in general. In a few years, Suriname would hopefully be able to report about specific legislation guaranteeing that they had equal rights. Suriname had 20 different ethnic groups with different religions and needed some kind of consensus to pass legislation on the issue. Nevertheless, it was important to note that the Ministry of Justice and Police defined the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons as human rights.

66. Concerning the question from Italy about the death penalty, it would be eliminated from the Military Penal Code by the end of 2016.

67. Jamaica commended the amendments to the Nationality and Residency Act and the Election Act; the drafting of legislation on sexual harassment in the workplace and the amendment to the Civil Code to introduce maternity leave for women in the private sector; the formulation and implementation of the Domestic Violence Plan 2014-2017; and the signature of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It also applauded the innovative conditional cash transfer programme.

68. Malaysia noted the efforts to eliminate discrimination against women through the adoption of new legislation, amendments to existing laws and the implementation of relevant policies and programmes. It also acknowledged the comprehensive approach to child protection. It stated, however, that further attention could be given to the socioeconomic situation and access to justice for persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups.

69. Maldives commended the accession of Suriname to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and efforts made within anti-discrimination initiatives in the country. It appreciated the measures to support mental health, including the most recent National Mental Health Plan (2015-2017). It also took note of the implementation of a housing plan for the period of 2012-2017.

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70. Mexico appreciated the establishment of a national human rights institution and the accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It encouraged Suriname to remove the death penalty from the Military Penal Code. It commended the implementation of the law to reduce poverty, creation of a sustainable social security system and a legislative amendment to guarantee gender equality in transmitting nationality to avoid statelessness of children.

71. Montenegro commended the commitment of Suriname to combat domestic violence. It underlined the amendments to the Nationality and Residency Act and equal rights for men and women to confer nationality to their spouse and children. Noting the concerns of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Committee of Experts regarding the child victims of trafficking and prostitution, it asked Suriname to provide additional information regarding efforts to ensure appropriate services for them.

72. Morocco welcomed the changes to the Nationality and Residency Act to guarantee gender equality in transmitting nationality to prevent statelessness. It also commended the decision to abolish fees for primary and secondary schools to allow better access to education, as well as the efforts to fight against racial discrimination, and the adoption of the national strategy to combat trafficking in persons.

73. Namibia commended Suriname for setting up a commission to coordinate the process for implementation of recommendations from the universal periodic review and the initiatives to combat domestic violence, especially under the "Intervention Domestic Violence" religious leaders' training project for religious leaders. It also welcomed the 2014 amendment to the Nationality and Residency Act and the adoption of the law to remove the death penalty from its Penal Code.

74. The Netherlands welcomed the removal of the death penalty from the Penal Code and the importance attached to women's rights, but noted that the Domestic Violence Plan 2014-2017 had not been approved. Echoing the comments of the Human Rights Committee, it urged Suriname to repeal the Amnesty Act and comply with international human rights law requiring accountability for those responsible for serious human rights violations.

75. Nicaragua welcomed the legislative reforms and the steps taken to improve the human rights situation of women and children. It congratulated Suriname on the removal of the death penalty from the Penal Code. Nicaragua encouraged Suriname to continue the efforts, particularly in the areas of the right to health and education, poverty reduction and the rights of the most vulnerable, such as women, children and indigenous peoples.

76. Pakistan appreciated the legislation and policies introduced for the advancement of human rights, for example, the Nationality and Residency Act, the Act on National Basic Health Insurance, the Stalking Act, the Comprehensive Plan for Children and Adolescents (2012-2016) and the national action plan for the eradication of child labour.

77. Panama welcomed the establishment of a national human rights institution and removal of the death penalty from the Penal Code, and the initiatives undertaken to prevent domestic violence, including against women.

78. Paraguay welcomed the amendment to the Nationality and Residency Act in order to guarantee gender equality in transmitting nationality and encouraged Suriname to ensure that children who would not benefit from that amendment had access to health and education services. It urged Suriname to adopt measures to combat gender-based violence and abuse against women and trafficking in persons.

79. The Philippines appreciated the programme aimed at raising women's awareness of domestic violence and the efforts to revise the Civil Code to improve women's labour rights. It was, however, concerned about the allegations that there was a lack of recognition

of the rights of indigenous peoples and a need to improve access to educational services for children.

80. Portugal welcomed the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the abolition of school fees, which had resulted in improved access to education, especially for families living in the interior of the country and poor family households. It also welcomed the legislation establishing a national human rights institution.

81. The Republic of Korea appreciated initiatives and policies taken by the Bureau of Gender Affairs to promote gender equality and protect women from violence. It noted a "Intervention Domestic Violence" training session as a good example to raise awareness on gender-based violence. It also noted the legislation establishing the National Human Rights Institution and hoped that the human rights infrastructure would be independent and effective.

82. Regarding the question on the National Human Rights Institution, the delegation of Suriname assured that it would be independent and in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles).

83. In relation to the Amnesty Act mentioned by the Netherlands, and by referring to the first Amnesty Act, Suriname could not give amnesty to some violators of human rights, but not others. The second Amnesty Act was not the initiative of the Government but that of parliament. Suriname wanted to end that situation positively and start the process of mediations and truth-finding through the Organization of the American States. The case that had been brought before the courts must also come to an end.

84. On domestic violence and child abuse, the Ministry of Justice and Police had recently launched a pilot project on child abuse and exploitation in an indigenous village in the western part of the country to see what kind of methodologies should be developed. Suriname also planned to establish an institution whose primary purpose was to protect children. But more experts and social workers were needed to reach the goal in 2018.

85. Senegal welcomed measures taken by Suriname as part of the follow-up to recommendations accepted during the first universal periodic review cycle, which included the abolition of the death penalty, the revision of the Nationality and Residency Act, the provision of free health care for children up to the age of 16 and initiatives prioritizing women's rights.

86. Sierra Leone applauded the efforts undertaken to combat gender inequality and encouraged the accelerated adoption of the legislation conferring mothers' nationality on their children. It also encouraged Suriname to ensure that the national human rights institution was in accordance with the Paris Principles. It urged Suriname to implement the recommendations from the first cycle.

87. Slovenia welcomed the efforts undertaken in the areas of women's rights and gender equality and the removal of the death penalty from the Penal Code, but remained concerned that the death penalty was preserved in the Military Penal Code. It noted with concern that Suriname had not ratified the Convention against Torture and that criminal legislation did not define torture in conformity with international norms.

88. South Africa commended Suriname for the establishment of a commission to implement universal periodic review recommendations. It also commended Suriname for the efforts undertaken to abolish the death penalty and eradicate poverty. It encouraged Suriname to ensure full and effective participation of the tribal and indigenous peoples in public and political life.

89. Spain congratulated Suriname for the transparent and democratic elections held in 2015 and the recent adoption of the new Penal Code, which included the abolition of the death penalty. It also congratulated Suriname for ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

90. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia welcomed the adoption of a national strategy to combat trafficking in persons. It encouraged Suriname to broaden the mandate of the national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. It requested additional information on the adoption of comprehensive anti-trafficking legislation and on whether measures were being taken to decriminalize defamation.

91. Trinidad and Tobago commended Suriname for efforts in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women. It also noted the creation of a social system to address poverty and social protection through the adoption and implementation of legislation relating to the minimum wage, pension benefits and basic health insurance.

92. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed the progress made since the last review, including the areas of women's rights, discrimination and gender equality. It welcomed the removal of the death penalty from the Penal Code, and its forthcoming abolition from the Military Penal Code. It encouraged Suriname to continue its efforts to legally recognize the land rights of indigenous communities and to ensure that indigenous communities benefit from public services.

93. The United States of America applauded the reform of the nationality law, removing provisions that discriminated against women. It expressed concern at the unwillingness of prosecutors to recognize the guidance of the November 2015 Court of Justice ruling that found the Amnesty Act to be unconstitutional, at insufficient resources to combat trafficking in persons, at the use of child labour in the informal sector and at the fact that the age when compulsory education ended remained below the minimum age for employment.

94. Uruguay thanked Suriname for its efforts to participate in the review. It welcomed the signatures of two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the ratification of the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as the efforts to enforce women's rights. It took note of the training of personnel for the national human rights institution.

95. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. It noted that all children up to 16 years of age received free health care and free primary and first-level secondary education.

96. Algeria welcomed measures to implement recommendations from the first universal periodic review. Suriname had made major efforts in the area of women's rights, combating domestic violence and ensuring equality between men and women, inter alia, concerning the acquisition of nationality. It noted the adoption of a national strategy to combat trafficking in persons and the commitment to settle the land rights of the indigenous peoples.

97. Argentina congratulated Suriname for the legislative reform that had removed the death penalty from the Penal Code.

98. Armenia appreciated the strategy to combat trafficking in persons and the abolition of school tuition fees, which improved access to education. It welcomed the efforts to recognize the land rights of the indigenous peoples. It noted that there remained a number of core international human rights instruments yet to be ratified.

99. Australia noted the abolition of the death penalty in the Penal Code, following commitments made in the 2011 universal periodic review. It remained concerned about the unresolved trial of President Bouterse and the 22 co-defendants for the 1982 extrajudicial killings of 15 political opponents. It also expressed concern about the national human rights institution falling under the direction of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

100. Azerbaijan welcomed the elimination of the death penalty from the Penal Code, the national strategy to combat trafficking in persons and the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. It welcomed the decision to amend the Nationality and Residency Act to ensure gender equality in the transference of nationality.

101. The Bahamas commended Suriname on the efforts undertaken to promote human rights, including in the area of gender equality, trafficking in persons, protection of children and support to civil society, which were undertaken against a challenging fiscal landscape. It requested to hear about ongoing strategies to increase participation of women in politics and decision-making.

102. Barbados applauded the establishment of a commission to implement the universal periodic review recommendations. It also encouraged the establishment of an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. It urged Suriname to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. It encouraged continued collaboration with United Nations bodies and efforts to combat trafficking in persons.

103. Belgium welcomed the abolition of the death penalty, in accordance with a recommendation it had made in the last universal periodic review. It also noted the undertaking by Suriname to remove the death penalty from the Military Penal Code. It welcomed the legal prohibition of corporal punishment, and called for awareness-raising campaigns on corporal punishment. It was concerned by the persistence of child labour in rural areas.

104. Brazil praised Suriname for: amending the Penal Code so as to abolish the death penalty; ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; measures taken regarding gender equality and violence against women and on the rights of persons with HIV/AIDS; and the adoption of the 2012-2016 development plan and legal measures to establish a national social protection system.

105. Canada encouraged the extension of the abolition of the death penalty to the Military Penal Code. It welcomed the adoption by Suriname of the road map for combating trafficking in persons (2014-2018) and encouraged concrete protection measures that target persons who are marginalized and most vulnerable to be rapidly and effectively put in place.

106. Chile appreciated progress noted in past years in the institutional, legal and political spheres, aimed at empowering women and promoting their participation in political and economic life. It noted increased participation of women in parliament.

107. China appreciated actions taken by Suriname to promote sustainable economic and social development and inter-ethnic harmony. It welcomed the accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; campaigns to combat domestic violence and to promote gender equality and participation of women in the political life; the national action plan to eliminate child labour; and the provision of free medical care.

108. Colombia highlighted the commitment of Suriname to abolish death penalty. Colombia offered Suriname its experience in the areas of indigenous peoples, education, health and non-discrimination.

109. Responding to the question posed by Armenia on the accession to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the Convention against Torture, the delegation of Suriname indicated that they would be studied by the national human rights institution to be established.

110. On increasing the minimum age for marriage to 18, the age of consent in the Civil Code had been revised in 2003 from 13 to 15 years for girls and from 15 to 17 years for boys. In current draft legislation, it was proposed that the age be increased to 18 for both boys and girls in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

111. As to the question from Australia regarding the situation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex individuals, Suriname was trying to increase awareness, despite difficulties in creating acceptance among more than 20 ethnic groups.

112. Responding to the statement from the United States, the delegation reported that Suriname had created the Trafficking in Persons Unit in the police and conducted awareness-raising programmes for them so that they would not treat victims as criminals. Suriname also had shelters for female and child trafficking victims and was establishing shelters for male victims.

113. As for child labour in informal economy, including in small-scale gold mining, it was important to know that, in Suriname, during school holidays, children worked for their parents. That was Surinamese culture. However, the Government was enforcing the law on the age of mandatory schooling.

114. Concerning the comments made by the United States about the justice system, the Minister stressed that she could not accept the statement that suggested that the justice system in Suriname was not independent, as that was not true.

115. The age of compulsory education would be increased to 16 years of age and it was hoped that the law would be in force next year.

116. In relation to the recommendation from Trinidad and Tobago to separate juveniles from adults in detention, the juvenile correctional institution did not yet have a separate building; however, juveniles were separated from adults.

117. As for access of persons with disabilities to education, Suriname had improved access to education, including in rural areas, but mainly at primary level.

118. Costa Rica congratulated Suriname for progress made regarding gender equality and decision-making, such as the 2015 campaign. It noted that, further to that initiative, participation of women had increased. It acknowledged the importance paid by Suriname to human rights education and training on gender equality. It also noted with concern the observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination regarding the situation of indigenous peoples in Suriname.

119. Cuba acknowledged challenges faced by a multi-ethnic and multireligious society such as Suriname. It noted efforts to combat gender inequalities at home and society, such as training provided to public servants and awareness-raising campaigns. It highlighted progress regarding children rights, trafficking in persons and poverty reduction. It noted persistent challenges regarding indigenous peoples' rights.

120. Denmark commended Suriname for having ratified almost all the core human rights instruments and submitted reports to treaty bodies. It regretted, however, that Suriname had not ratified the Convention against Torture and hoped that Suriname would be a party thereto. It highlighted that the Convention against Torture Initiative stood ready to explore avenues to assist Suriname in advancing on that issue.

121. Ecuador acknowledged legislative progress regarding the elimination of corporal punishment, child labour and other forms of violence against children. It drew particular attention to the office established to deal with gender issues; training provided on national legislation related to domestic violence and gender issues; and cooperation with civil society to promote projects aimed at empowering women in the social, political and economic spheres.

122. Egypt welcomed efforts made by Suriname regarding gender equality, including amendment to the Nationality and Residency Act and measures taken to combat trafficking in persons. It also welcomed the fact that Suriname recognized the existence of inequalities in the labour market between men and women and hoped that Suriname would tackle challenges.

123. France welcomed the abolition of death penalty in Suriname and invited Suriname to continue its reforms aimed to fully respect human rights.

124. Georgia welcomed the removal of the death penalty from the Penal Code and acknowledged the intention to repeal the death penalty in the Military Penal Code. Georgia welcomed the revision of the Nationality and Residency Act in order to ensure gender equality and noted that further steps should be taken to repeal discriminatory provisions against women in domestic legislation.

125. Germany commended Suriname for abolishing the death penalty in the Penal Code and looked forward to its complete abolition through a reform of the Military Penal Code. It remained concerned that the implementation of two judgements of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, pretrial detention and children's rights required further attention.

126. Ghana welcomed steps taken regarding promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women, trafficking in persons, poverty reduction and promotion of economic, social and cultural rights of vulnerable groups, and the establishment of an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. It expressed concern, however, that human rights and training education had not been incorporated into school curricula.

127. Guatemala noted steps taken by Suriname to promote, protect and respect the fundamental human rights of all persons.

128. Haiti congratulated Suriname for its wide and inclusive national report and noted progress in the areas of the rights of women and children.

129. Honduras congratulated Suriname for its decision to abolish the death penalty in its Penal Code. It encouraged Suriname to reflect its position regarding the right to life in its Military Penal Code too. It welcomed progress made by Suriname at institutional infrastructure level, through the establishment of a national human rights institution. It reiterated its support to Suriname.

130. India noted positive measures regarding gender inequality, the rights of persons with disabilities and actions to combat child abuse and sexual exploitation. It requested more information about the multifaceted approach to counter gender-based discrimination mentioned in the national report. It encouraged Suriname to continue effective implementation of the Act on Combating Domestic Violence and efforts towards improved access to education for tribal children.

131. Concerning the situation of the Saramaka people, the delegation of Suriname reiterated that the implementation of the *Moiwana* judgment was nearly completed, but that the Court had made a mistake in the judgment to say that the Moiwana was the land of Maroons, when it was in fact the land of indigenous peoples. That was causing a problem. The *Saramaka* judgment was a different situation. The Government had been holding

discussions with Saramaka tribes, as the demarcation of the land as the Court would prefer might lead to riots and conflict between ethnic groups. Therefore, the fulfilment of the *Saramaka* judgment needed to wait until an agreement would be reached with the 12 tribes of Saramaka people.

132. In conclusion, the delegation thanked all the delegations for their support and recommendations that they had given.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

133. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue listed below have been examined by Suriname and enjoy the support of Suriname:

133.1 **Sign and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Belgium);**

133.2 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Australia) (Costa Rica) (France) (Montenegro) (Panama) (Portugal);**

133.3 **Consider the accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Argentina); consider acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Uruguay);**

133.4 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and take all necessary steps to abolish the death penalty in the military code (Italy);**

133.5 **Sign and ratify the core international instruments, including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Sierra Leone);**

133.6 **Sign and ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Italy);**

133.7 **Accede to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Armenia) (Canada) (Ghana); ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark) (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

133.8 **Ratify promptly the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Guatemala);**

133.9 **Move forward the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);**

133.10 **Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Philippines); consider acceding to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Uruguay);**

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

133.11 **Accede to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and align its legislation accordingly (Slovenia);**

133.12 **Accede to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (France);**

133.13 **Sign and ratify those international human rights instruments to which it was not yet a party, particularly the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, which had been previously recommended (Spain);**

133.14 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Italy);**

133.15 **Ratify promptly the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Guatemala);**

133.16 **Consider ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Bahamas);**

133.17 **Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Honduras);**

133.18 **Ratify promptly the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Guatemala);**

133.19 **Consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Ecuador);**

133.20 **Continue and accelerate efforts towards ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Bahamas);**

133.21 **Take the opportunity of ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to improve social security and public services for persons with disabilities (China);**

133.22 **Accede to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia); ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Ghana);**

133.23 **Accelerate the passage of the law establishing the Constitutional Court in accordance with the Constitution of Suriname (Egypt);**

133.24 **Establish promptly, as provided in the Constitution, a constitutional court with competency, inter alia, to review the compatibility of the national law with the international human rights instruments (Guatemala);**

133.25 **Continue to consolidate the positive societal policies in favour of vulnerable sectors, particularly children and adolescents (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

133.26 **Continue to improve the engagement, empowerment, education, entrepreneurship and social enterprise of youth (Malaysia);**

133.27 **Create a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Costa Rica); establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Georgia) (Pakistan);**

133.28 **Establish an independent national human rights institution that conforms to the Paris Principles (Australia);**

133.29 **Consider establishing a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (India);**

133.30 **Strengthen the independence of the national human rights institution (Egypt);**

133.31 **Ensure that the establishment of its national human rights institutions complies with the Paris Principles (Malaysia);**

133.32 **Take all necessary measures to put in place a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (France);**

133.33 **Take all the necessary steps to ensure that the national human rights institution complies fully with the Paris Principles (Portugal);**

133.34 **Establish an independent human rights institution with a broad mandate for the promotion and protection of human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles (South Africa);**

133.35 **Give the National Human Rights Institution to be established a broad mandate to promote and protect human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea);**

133.36 **Continue the efforts to reinforce the human rights institutions and the harmonization of the national legislation with the human rights conventions, to which the country is s a party (Morocco);**

133.37 **Take all necessary measures to incorporate human rights and gender education in school curricula to help promote human rights awareness in Suriname (Ghana);**

133.38 **Implement programmes in the area of human rights education for State officers, including law enforcement officers, in order to avoid violence and discrimination on any basis, especially regarding vulnerable groups (Colombia);**

133.39 **Continue its cooperation with international human rights bodies and instruments (Morocco);**

133.40 **Continue its cooperation with the human rights mechanisms of the United Nations (Azerbaijan);**

133.41 **Submit its overdue reports to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Sierra Leone);**

133.42 **Continue to promote women empowerment (Pakistan);**

133.43 **Continue to address legislative gaps related to the rights of women (Namibia);**

133.44 **Continue efforts to promote and protect the rights of women and address legislative gaps related to the issue (Georgia);**

133.45 **Continue deploying concrete actions aimed at eliminating discrimination against women and improve the rights of women ánd gender equality (Cuba);**

133.46 **Promote efficiently equality between men and women, and take all necessary measures to combat violence against women and trafficking in persons (France);**

133.47 **Adopt concrete measures to increase the participation of women in the political and public sphere (Slovenia);**

133.48 **Continue adopting public policies including affirmative measures, on provisional basis if needed, in order to increase participation of women in the political and public spheres (Chile);**

133.49 **Design and implement effective policies to promote gender equality based on indicators and statistics to measure their impact (Mexico);**

133.50 **Promote gender equality in law and in practice in order to increase the participation of women in the political and economic life of the country (Paraguay);**

133.51 **Implement outcome-oriented programmes to empower women's participation in the work force and in political sphere (Maldives);**

133.52 **Undertake awareness-raising campaigns to foster equal opportunities and responsibilities for women and men both in private and public spheres (Panama);**

133.53 **Conduct awareness-raising campaigns regarding equal opportunities and responsibilities for men and women, in order to abolish discrimination on the basis of gender and lead to greater representation of women in positions of responsibility (Spain);**

133.54 **Take appropriate measures to ensure gender equality and non-discrimination of women in all spheres, particularly the presence of women in the democratic process and the eradication of gender discrimination in the labour market (Honduras);**

133.55 **Enact comprehensive legislation that fully guarantees the application of the principle of non-discrimination and to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights by every member of society (South Africa);**

133.56 **Take all necessary steps to adopt legislative and other measures to explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Netherlands);**

133.57 **Enact legislation that specifically addresses discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex individuals (Australia);**

133.58 **Adopt specific legislation to prevent discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity (Chile);**

133.59 **Take effective steps for the country's legal framework to protect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people (Brazil);**

133.60 **Intensify measures to prevent and sanction violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Chile);**

133.61 **Develop and implement training programmes for current and trainee police officers to address stigmatisation and discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Ireland);**

133.62 **Expedite its efforts to fully abolish the death penalty (Slovenia);**

133.63 **Expand the abolition of the death penalty to the military justice code (Spain);**

133.64 **Strengthen the national legal framework to combat torture by considering the accession of the Convention against Torture (Indonesia);**

133.65 **Improve prison conditions (Senegal);**

133.66 **Improve the conditions in pretrial detention facilities (Germany);**

133.67 **Continue its efforts to enhance the rights of women in particular to eliminate all forms of violence against women (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);**

133.68 **Continue to take active measures to ensure the effective implementation of the 2009 Law Combating Domestic Violence (Namibia);**

133.69 **Consider providing regular training on the importance of ensuring both accountability for gender-based violence and victim's access to justice, especially for law enforcement and judicial officers, including prosecutors (Republic of Korea);**

133.70 **Strengthen and expands protections and programmes addressing gender-based violence and sexual exploitation of children, including victims of trafficking, by ensuring that survivors have access to shelter, as well as to justice, health-care services, and support services (Canada);**

133.71 **Improve the protection of children; strengthen early detection and counsel for victims of child sexual abuse; raise public awareness about the harmful effects of corporal punishment (Germany);**

133.72 **Adopt legal reforms and policy measures to guarantee the prohibition of all forms of violence against children, including corporal punishment both in the private and the public sphere (Mexico);**

133.73 **Continue to intensify the efforts undertaken in order to promote and protect children's rights, particularly in reference to the implementation of effective measures for eradicating child labour (Argentina);**

133.74 **Continue to bolster its legal arsenal with regard to child labour (Spain);**

133.75 **Reinforce efforts at legislative level and political measures to combat trafficking in persons for sexual and labour exploitation (Honduras);**

133.76 **Open the proposed shelter for female and child trafficking victims and allocate sufficient resources to support long-term services for victims of trafficking (United States of America);**

133.77 **Focus further on training for magistrates and law-enforcement officers regarding trafficking in persons (Haiti);**

133.78 **Continue providing training and implementing measures to tackle trafficking in persons, paying particular attention to the promotion and protection of the rights of the child (Cuba);**

133.79 **Increase efforts to identify and provide assistance to victims of human trafficking and implement and provide adequate financing for the national strategy to combat human trafficking (Belgium);**

133.80 **Take steps to implement its road map for combating human trafficking in order to ensure compliance with minimum standards for the elimination of**

trafficking, including by establishing an interagency anti-trafficking structure; take steps to reduce the demand for sex trafficking and forced labour, including through public education and advocacy campaigns (Canada);

133.81 **Take concrete steps to improve access to legal representation and justice for vulnerable groups, through affordable legal aid schemes (Malaysia);**

133.82 **Ensure that the justice system has the necessary resources to carry out an independent, impartial and expeditious trial of the December 1982 murders (United States of America);**

133.83 **Implement the recommendations of the Human Rights Committee, by prosecuting and sentencing, as appropriate, the perpetrators of the extrajudicial executions of December 1982 and the Moiwana massacre in 1986 (Netherlands);**

133.84 **Ensure that juveniles in detention are housed in separate facilities from adults (Trinidad and Tobago);**

133.85 **Pursue measures to eliminate poverty, through implementation of comprehensive public policies with a human rights-based approach (Ecuador);**

133.86 **Adopt legislative and political measures, including allocation of financial resources to improve coverage of health services in rural areas (Honduras);**

133.87 **Draw up a national health policy in order to reduce the high rate of maternal mortality (Senegal);**

133.88 **Continue to implement the National Mental Health Plan and the HIV National Strategic Plan and improve the level of health care in the country (China);**

133.89 **Consider adopting a more targeted programme to address the reported high suicide rate, especially among the youth, through, inter alia, the revitalised National Mental Health Plan (Jamaica);**

133.90 **Raise the age when compulsory education ends to at least 16 (United States of America);**

133.91 **Increase efforts to improve access to education in rural areas (Trinidad and Tobago);**

133.92 **Further improve access to all levels of education, including in the rural interior (Indonesia);**

133.93 **Improve access to education by all people, particularly children in the interior of the country (Algeria);**

133.94 **Improve access to primary and secondary education for all children, including those with disabilities. (Maldives);**

133.95 **Take steps to ensure that the access of persons with disabilities to education is not limited to vocational fields but covers wider educational areas (Trinidad and Tobago);**

133.96 **Improve the situation of indigenous peoples and guarantee their rights (Egypt);**

133.97 **Adopt measures and establish a formal platform to guarantee and protect the rights of indigenous peoples (Guatemala);**

133.98 **Strengthen measures to ensure equality of rights for indigenous peoples, including the right to health, education and adequate housing (Colombia);**

133.99 **Promote education for all, especially for indigenous and tribal children, as well as step up efforts to preserve languages of the indigenous communities (Philippines);**

133.100 **Respect and ensure the rights of indigenous people related to the preservation of their land, culture and resources (Canada);**

133.101 **Ensure that the judgements of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights regarding the Moiwana Community and Saramaka people are swiftly and completely implemented (Germany);**

133.102 **Adopt measures to reduce the negative impact of mining on the environment and the rights of indigenous peoples and their lands, in conformity with international standards (Costa Rica).**

134. **The following enjoy the support of Suriname, which considers that they are already implemented:**

134.1 **Sign and ratify the core international instruments, including International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Sierra Leone);**

134.2 **Continue the efforts of reforming the justice sector, in order to enhance the independence of the judiciary and facilitate access to justice to everyone (Egypt);**

134.3 **Adequately resource its judicial system, and take steps to ensure the independence of the judiciary (Australia).**

135. **The following recommendations will be examined by Suriname which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-third session of the Human Rights Council in September 2016:**

135.1 **Ratify international human rights instruments, particularly the Convention against Torture and other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol; the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; the Optional Protocol on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women as well as the ILO Convention 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (Brazil);**

135.2 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Costa Rica) (Portugal);**

135.3 **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Italy);**

135.4 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Chile) (Paraguay) (Uruguay);**

135.5 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (Costa Rica) (Honduras);**

135.6 **Ratify promptly the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Guatemala);**

135.7 **Move forward the ratification of the Optional Protocol the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);**

135.8 **Consider acceding to the Optional Protocol the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Uruguay);**

135.9 **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Belgium);**

135.10 **Sign and ratify those international human rights instruments to which it was not yet a party, particularly International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which had been previously recommended (Spain);**

135.11 **Consider acceding to the International Convention for Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay);**

135.12 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and examine communications (Panama);**

135.13 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and accept the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances pursuant to articles 31 and 32 of the Convention (France);**

135.14 **Sign and ratify the core international instruments, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sierra Leone);**

135.15 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Honduras);**

135.16 **Ratify promptly the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Guatemala);**

135.17 **Consider the accession of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia); consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines);**

135.18 **Ratify ILO Convention 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (Ghana) (Honduras);**

135.19 **Ratify ILO Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries and establish formal protocols to obtain their free, prior and informed consent (Paraguay);**

135.20 **Sign and ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Portugal);**

135.21 **Ratify the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Honduras);**

135.22 **Fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute (Slovenia);**

135.23 **Fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, including incorporating provisions to cooperate promptly and fully with the International Criminal Court, and investigate and prosecute genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes effectively, and also accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

135.24 **Continue its efforts to create a national human rights institution as provided for the 1991 Decree, as modified in March 2015 (Haiti);**

135.25 **Establish a national human rights institute in accordance with the Paris Principles, in accordance with the Order of Application relating to the human resources of the national human rights institution created in 2015 (Uruguay);**

135.26 **Extend a standing invitation to the Council's special procedures (Portugal);**

135.27 **Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Uruguay);**

135.28 **Extend standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders (Montenegro);**

135.29 **Extend an open standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Chile);**

135.30 **Extend an open standing invitation to all special procedures, as previously recommended (Spain);**

135.31 **Consider the possibility of extending an open standing invitation for all human rights mechanisms (Paraguay);**

135.32 **Ensure implementation of the principle of non-discrimination based on any ground, as provided by the national law in force, in the area of civil and political rights (Colombia);**

135.33 **Adopt legislation and promote measures to prevent discrimination based on race, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity (Mexico);**

135.34 **Adopt effective measures to ensure conditions of detention that respected the dignity of prisoners in particular the revised United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) (South Africa);**

135.35 **Adopt a new national action plan for the eradication of child labour and ensure its effective implementation (Italy);**

135.36 **Take concrete measures to eliminate the worst forms of child labour and revise the decree on labour inspections in order to take into account the possibility of allowing labour inspectors to inspect working conditions for children in the informal sector (Belgium);**

135.37 **Address urgently the constraints affecting the functioning of the Conditional Cash Transfer programme, including, if appropriate, through technical and/or financial assistance from regional and international partners (Jamaica);**

135.38 **Increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility and marriage to 18 (Sierra Leone);**

135.39 **Amend its legislation in order to increase the minimum age of marriage in line with the international standards (Slovenia);**

135.40 **Decriminalize defamation and place it within the civil code in accordance with international standards, and adopt a freedom of information law in line with international standards (Ireland);**

135.41 **Design and implement measures to ensure access to education and medical services in the area of sexual and reproductive health that are appropriate for each age group (Colombia);**

135.42 **Finalise the draft law on persons with disabilities with a view to its implementation (Haiti);**

135.43 **Take the necessary measures to combat land and water pollution caused by dangerous industrial waste (Algeria).**

136. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

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Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Suriname was headed by Ms. Jennifer van Dijk-Silos, Minister of Justice and Police, and composed of the following members:

- Ms. Jennifer Kamta, Official at the Bureau for Human Rights, Ministry of Justice and Police;
- Ms. Meryll Malone, Senior Desk Officer, Multilateral Affairs Department, Ministry for Foreign Affairs.